

Box
1/8
copy

WATS talks

Vision

- **Access Personal, Firm-wide, and published information (text and pictures) Large scale Hypertext-like research**
- **Fast response for interactive use**
- **Personalized Newspaper for keeping up to date (searches in the background)**
- **No cryptic searches: English Language with "These were good" feedback from user**
- **Open system for others to add components**

Wide Area Information Servers

Brewster Kahle
Thinking Machines Corporation
August 2, 1990

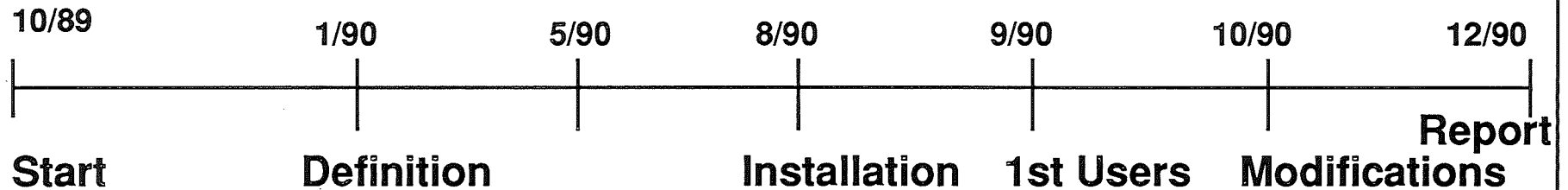
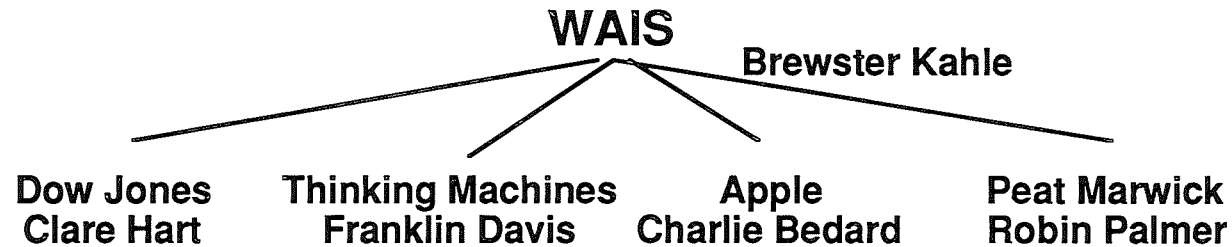
- Goals
- Vision
- WAIS Architecture
- WAIS Team
- Project Pieces
- Project Structure
- Proposed Techniques
- Demonstration System Structure
- Test Stages
- Conclusion

Project Pieces

- **Dow Jones:**
Installing WAN for information delivery
Implementing protocol on DowQuest
- **Thinking Machines:**
Corporate Information server on CM
User interface on Macintosh
Catalyst and organizer
- **Apple:**
User interface design, implementation, test
- **Peat Marwick:**
Data collection
User Feedback

WAIS

Project Structure



Apple/Thinking Machines/Dow Jones/Peat Marwick

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Vision

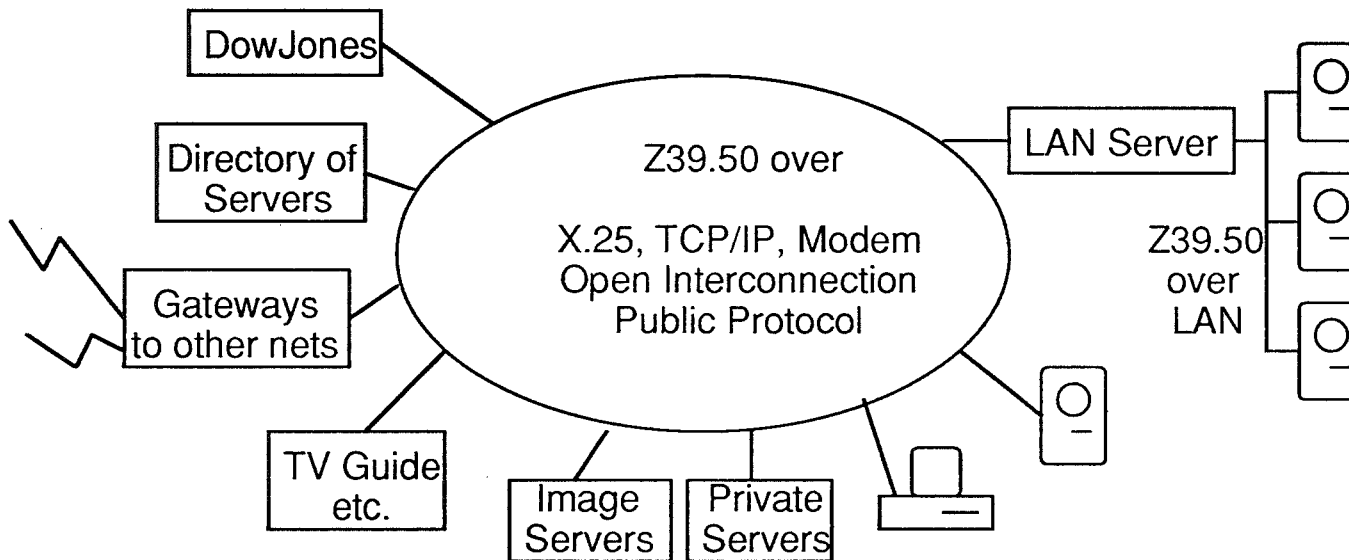
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- **Catalyze a market of Wide Area Information Servers**
- **Establish open protocol for Information Servers**
- **Produce skeleton Producer ---> Consumer system:
Real users from the start**
- **Move into production:
Involve 3rd parties where appropriate**

WAIS

Wide Area Information Server Architecture



Users Problems:
Selecting Servers
Answering Questions
Staying informed
Organizing Responses

Architecture Issues:
Scalability
Security
Business model for servers
Reliable Access

WAIS Team

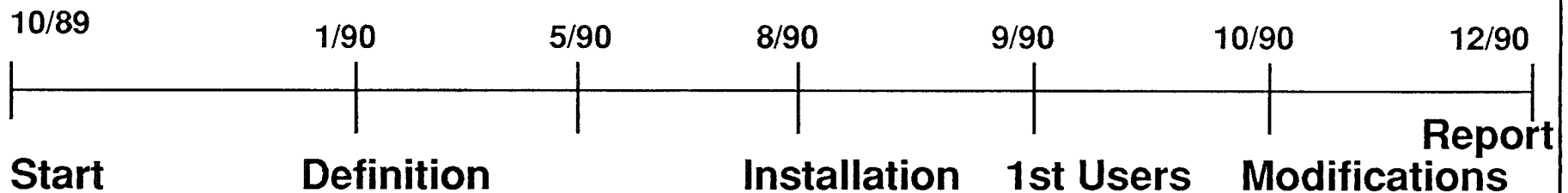
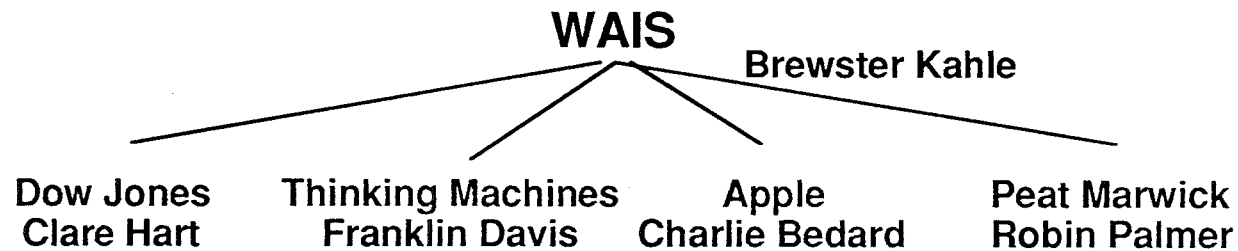
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Project Structure



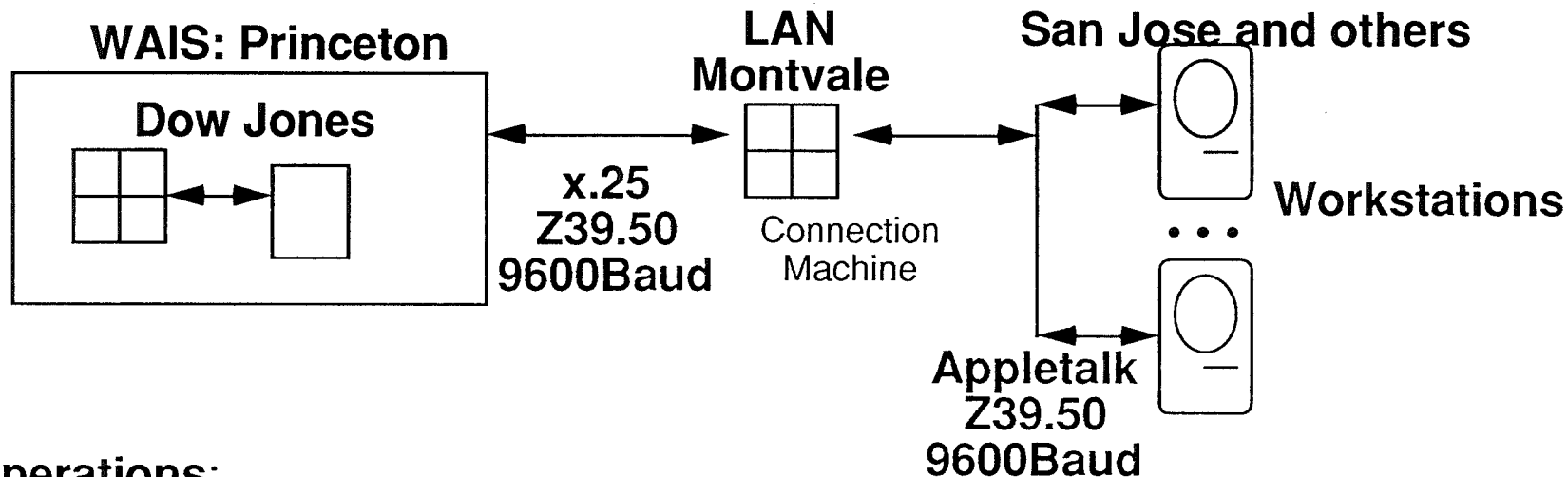
Apple/Thinking Machines/Dow Jones/Peat Marwick

Proposed Techniques

- **English Questions yeild "headlines" to aid retrieval**
- **Dynamic folders hold responses and will work at night (Newspapers)**
- **Directory of Servers can be questioned like any other server**
- **Editors help select important information**
- **Single Computer-to-Computer Protocol**

WAIS

Demonstration System Structure



Operations:

Archiving
Queries, Retrieval

IR Type:

Broadcast (DowVision)
Query by Example

Databases:

Wall St Journal
Barron's
400 Business Mags
(~1 GByte)

CM: Operations:

Queries, Retrieval

IR Type:

Query by Example

DBs: DowVision

Proposals
Letters
Resumes
Pictures
(400 MBytes)

Mac:

Operations:

Human Int
Retrieval
Queries
User Profiles

IR Type:

Query by example

DBs:

Personal Text

Test Stages

- **Implement the WAIS design: by Aug 31, 1990**
- **Introduce to increasing numbers of people:
Through Fall 1990**
- **Debug WAN, Interface, and Servers:
Starting in August 1990**
- **End 1990 with a workable system installed
and work plan for follow-on projects**

Future Possibilities

- **More Publishers: Entertainment, Industry reports, Government publications, Direction servers**
- **Better integration into existing systems**
- **IBM PC port**
- **Voicemail, FAX, Video access**
- **We are starting a new industry**

Wide Area Information Servers

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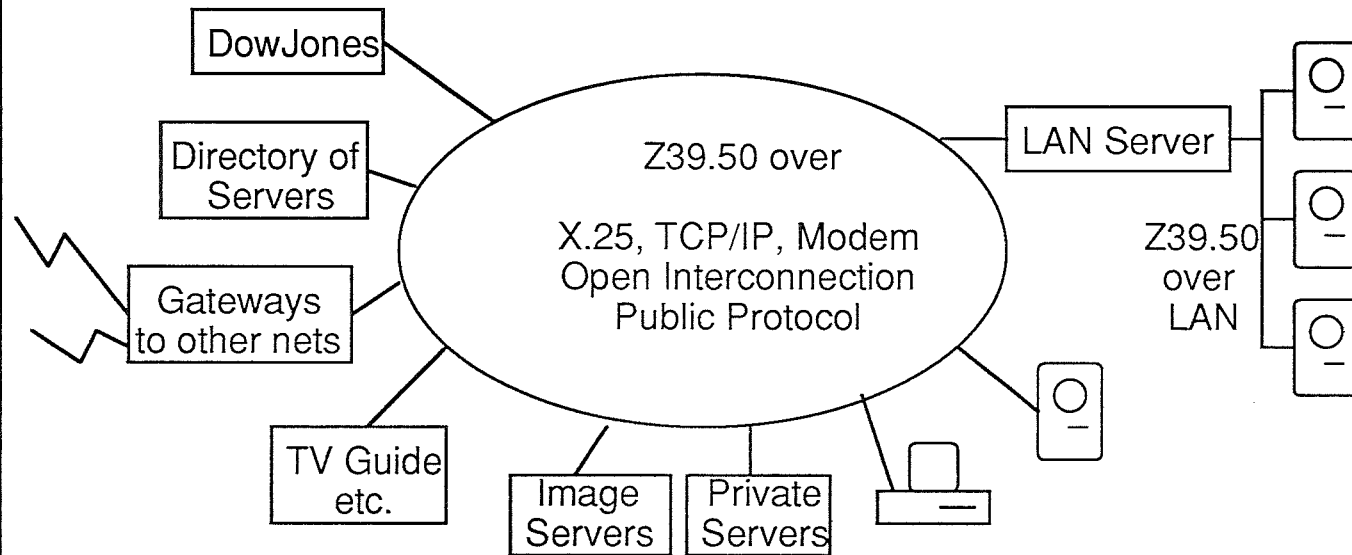
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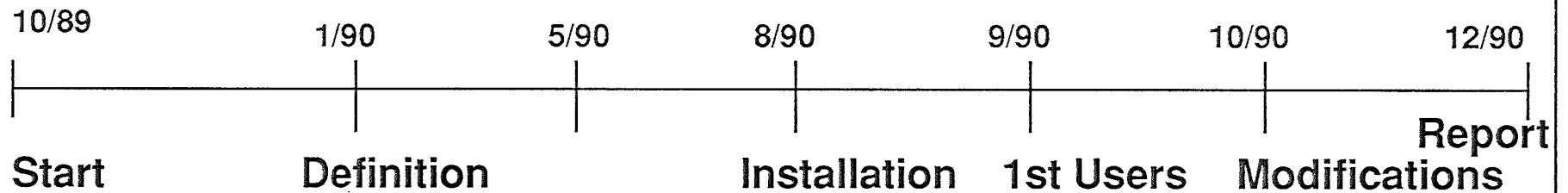
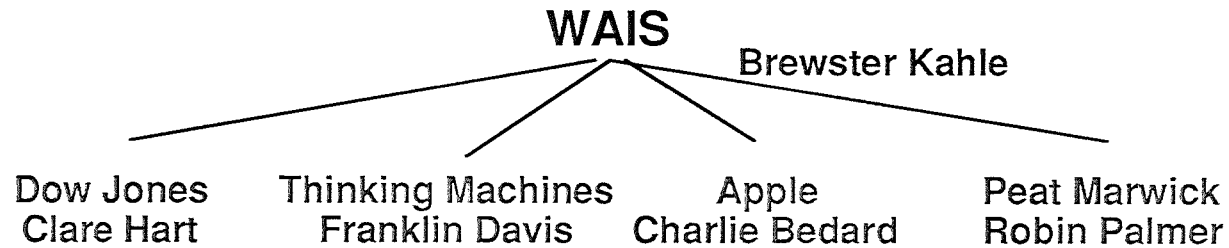
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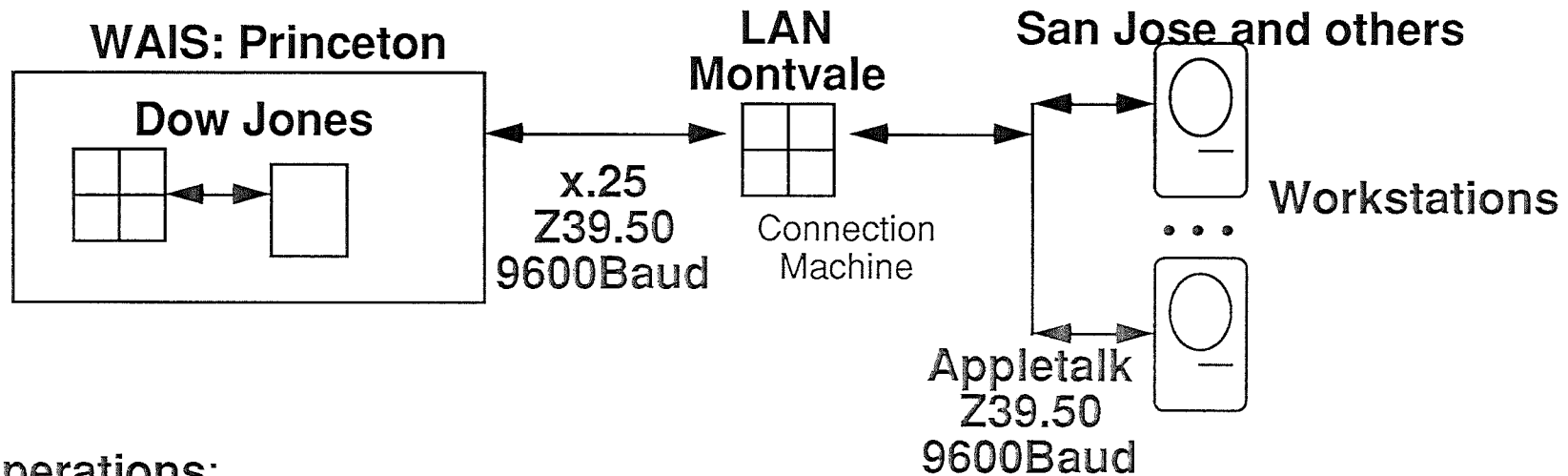


Apple/Thinking Machines/Dow Jones/Peat Marwick

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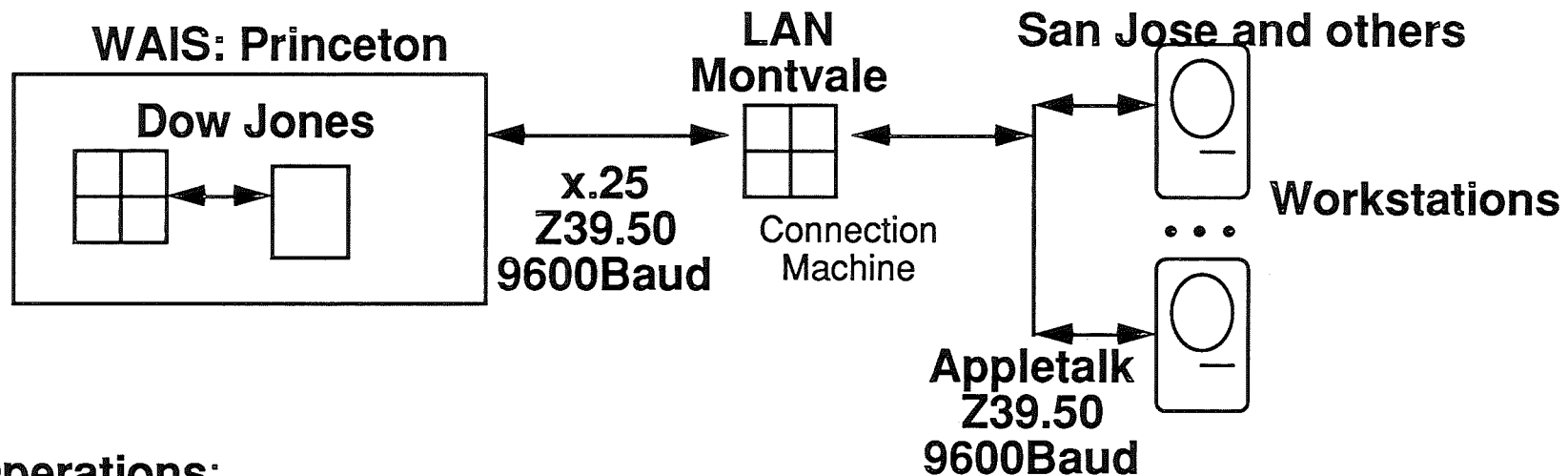
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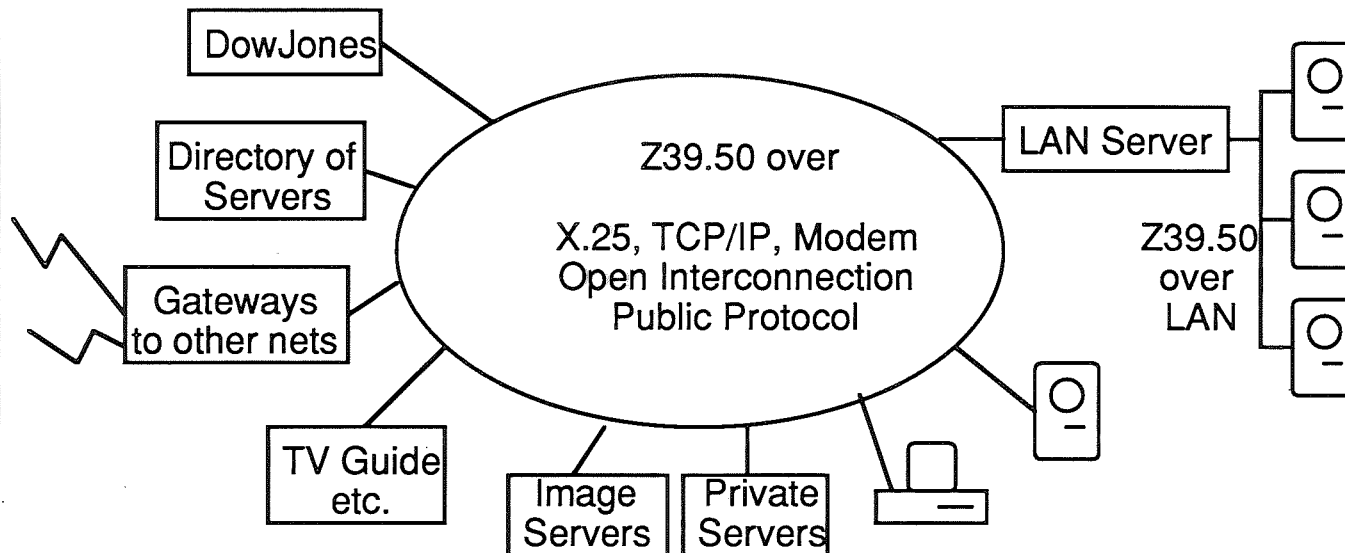
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Wide Area Information Server Architecture



Users Problems:
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Architecture Issues:
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**Brewster Kahle
Thinking Machines Corporation
August 2, 1990**

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- **Vision**
- **WAIS Architecture**
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- **Project Structure**
- **Proposed Techniques**
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- **Test Stages**
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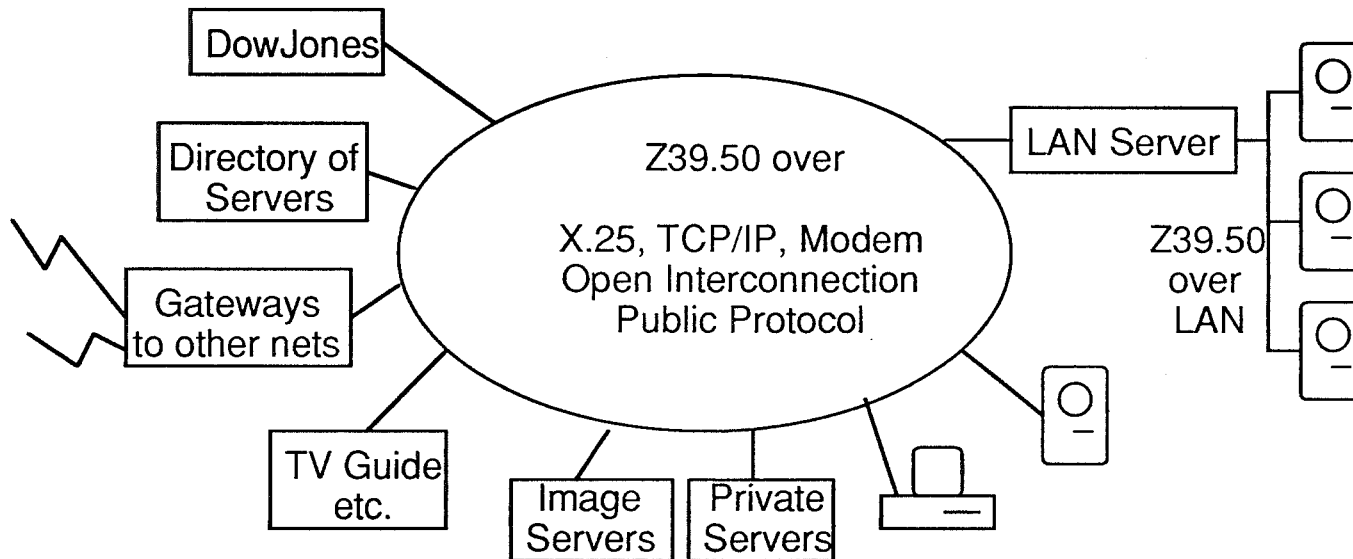
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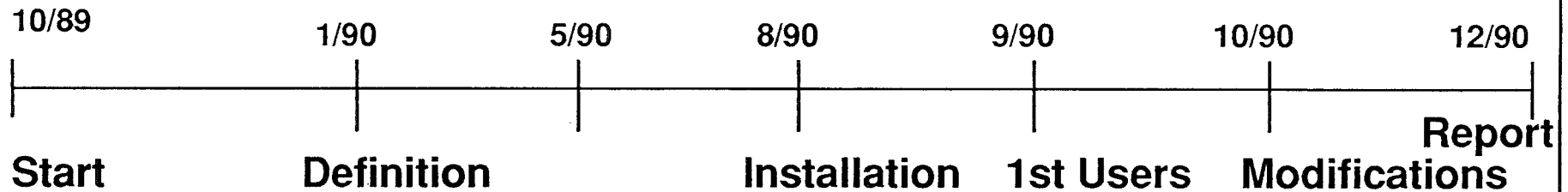
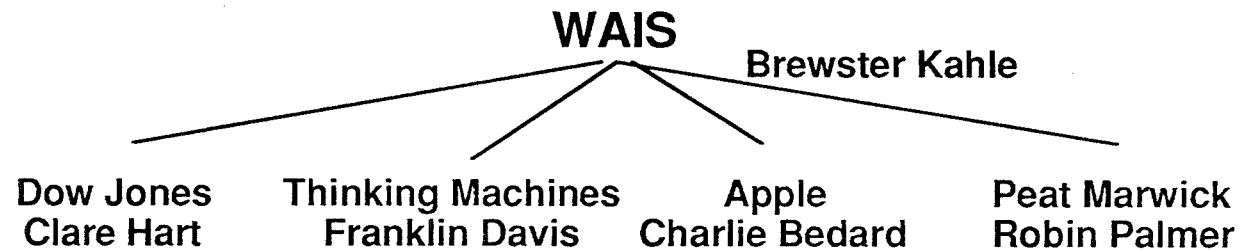
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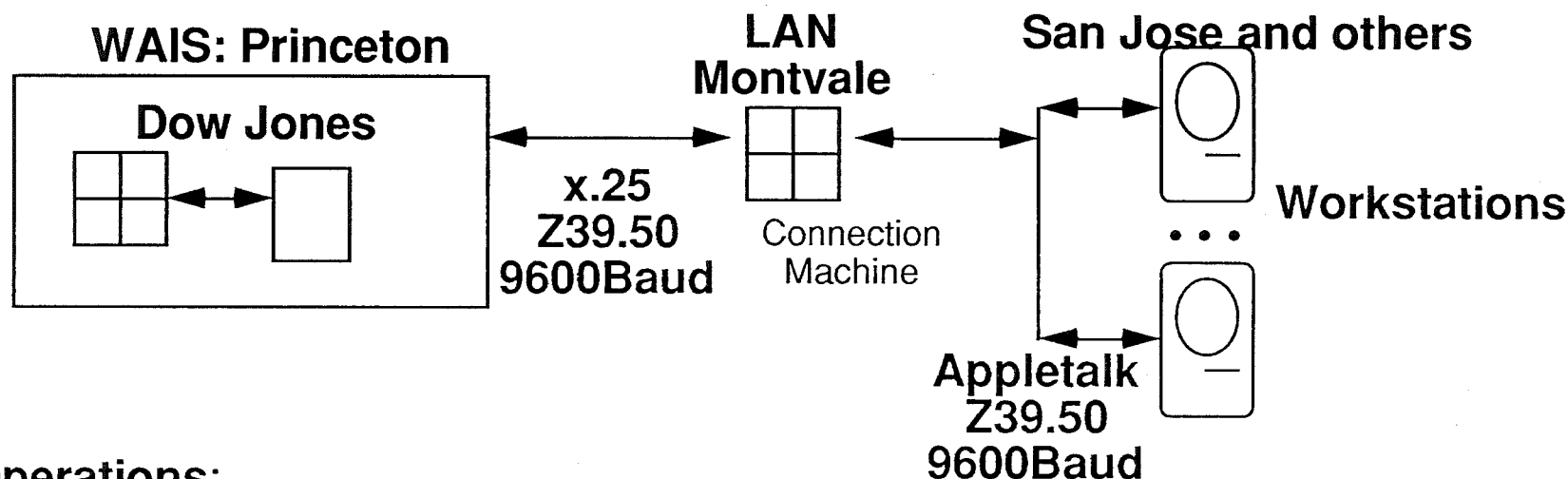
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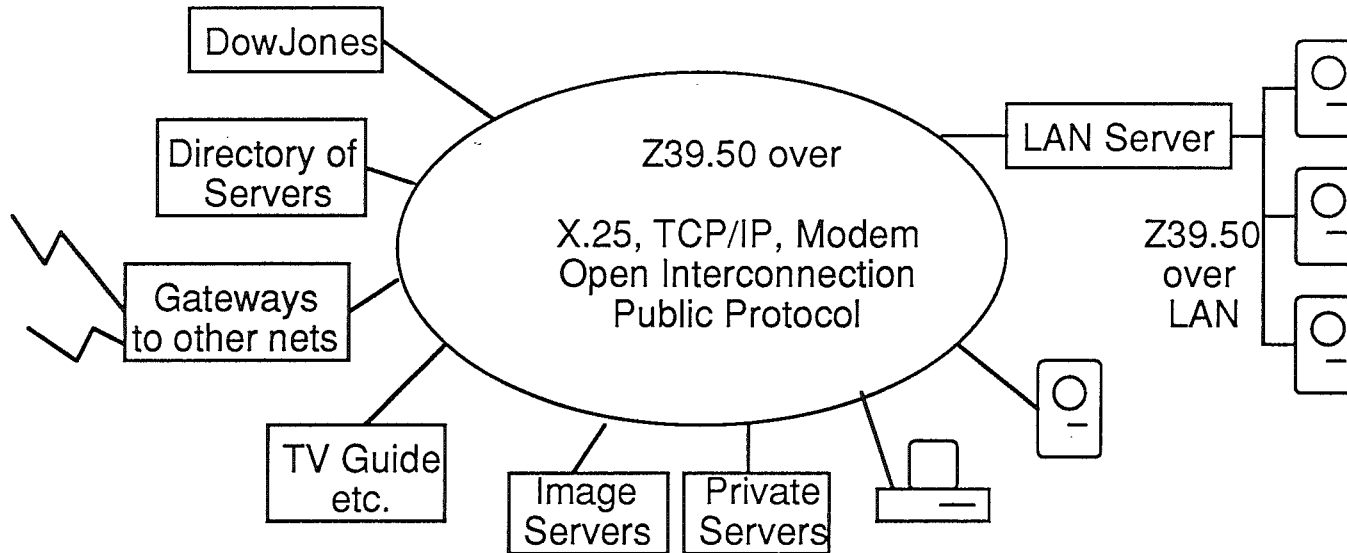
Brewster Kahle
Thinking Machines Corporation
April 24, 1990

- Goals
- Project Structure
- User's Problem
- Proposed Techniques
- System Structure
 - Overview
 - Dow Jones
 - Thinking Machines
 - Apple
 - Peat Marwick
- Conclusion

Goals

- Catalyze a market of Wide Area Information Servers
- Establish open protocol for Information Servers
- Produce skeleton Producer ---> Consumer system
- If the system works:
 - Move into production at TMC and Dow
 - Transfer technology to Apple Products Div
 - Evangelize third parties to write Mac software
- Find out what is missing from our system

Wide Area Information Server Architecture



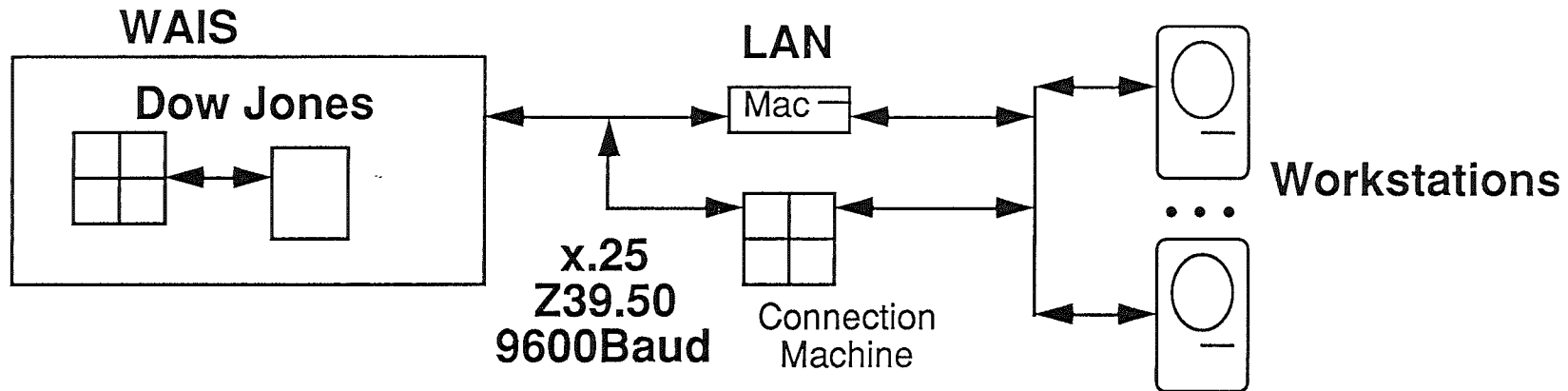
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IR Type:

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Query by Example

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Mac:

Operations: Archiving
Queries
Retrieval

IR Type: Query by Example

DBs: Mail, Netnews
Encyclopedias
DowVision

CM: Operations: Queries

IR Type:

enhanced relevance feedback

DBs: DowVision and memo's

Mac:

Operations:

Human Int
Retrieval
Queries
"Caching" Docs
User Profiles

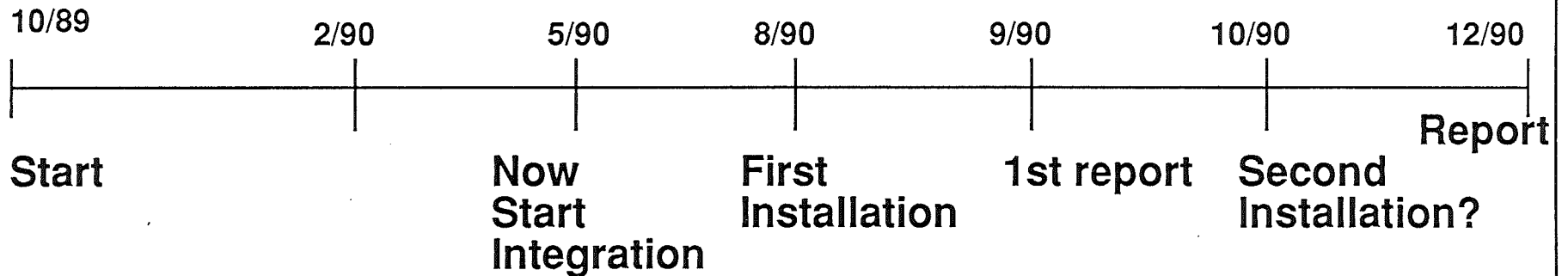
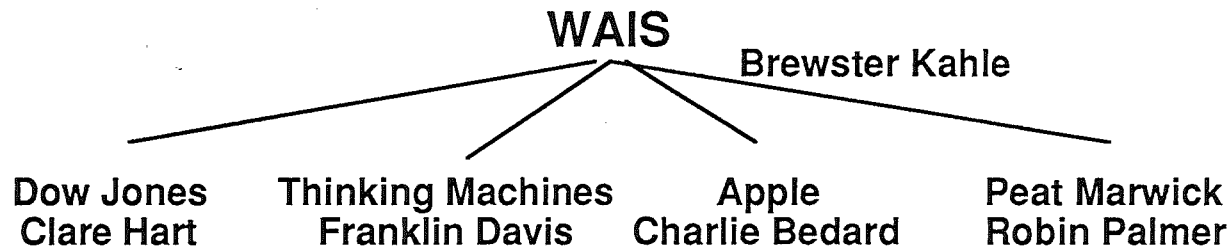
IR Type:

Query by example

DBs:

Personal Text
Cached data

Project Structure



Information Server Components Status

On Macintosh:

PLS: working, needs integration

Simple IR engine: working, needs refinement

On Small Connection Machine:

Document Retrieval: working, needs refinement

On Unix:

Simple IR engine: working, needs refinement

At Dow Jones:

DowQuest: working, 2 weeks to integration

Human Interface Components Status

Apple:

Human interface mocked-up: needs implementation

Thinking Machines:

Human interface: working, needs refinement

Communication Component Status

For Macintosh:

X.25 connection to DowVision:	Very close
Serial line (for modems):	working (with WAIStation)
TCP/IP (for LAN and internet):	close(with WAIStation), close (with Apple interface)
Z39.50 library:	working

For Sun (for LAN CM server):

X.25 connection to DowVision:	working
Serial line (for modems):	not started
TCP/IP (for LAN and internet):	working
Z39.50 library:	working

For Dow Jones:

DowVision Interactive:	specification stage
Z39.50 library on VMS:	working
X.25 DowVision Broadcast:	working
Public Data Network path:	specification stage

Apple Components

- **User Interface:** mocked-up, not implemented
- **Information Retrieval Engine for the Mac:**
PLS working, not integrated.
Simple IR working, not integrated.
- **Application Protocol Implementation:** done
- **Communications Software:** some and some
- **User Studies:** started, waiting for interface
- **DowVision support:** wobbling

Thinking Machines Components

- **Information Retrieval on the Connection Machine**
- **Application Protocol Implementation for CM**
- **DowVision Support**

Dow Jones Components

- **Application protocol for DowQuest**
- **Provide DowVision to Participants**

Peat Marwick Components

- Provide relevant data
- Select and prepare installation site
- Help with user scenarios
- Feedback design ideas and comments

Conclusion

- **Open new market of information servers**
- **Explore information business for hardware companies**
- **Make a dynamite system soon**

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